CHAPTER V

SUN'S PART IN THE REVOLUTION

"We shall rise up when the day is done and chirrup
'Behold, it is day I'
We shall abide till the battle is won ere we amble into the
fray."

WE come now to the part played by Dr, Sun Yat-sen in the First Revolution. To all intents and purposes it was over when he reached Shanghai. The Armistice had already been arranged, the Peace Conference at Shanghai was in session, Huang Hsing early in December had taken it upon himself to offer the Presidency to Yuan Shih-kai. Dr. Sun had, it is true, founded and was recognized as the leader of, the *Tung Meng Hui,* though that leadership had been challenged a short time previously. He was certainly looked upon as an asset to the party by reason of his ability to collect funds among the overseas Chinese. And when he did not return direct to China on the outbreak at Wuchang, it was generally assumed that he was engaged upon this task, and, as he himself admits, "My comrades also expected the alleged money on the very day of my arrival.' ' *Tung Meng Hui* control of the actual Revolution was lost in the early phases. General Li Yuan-hung enjoyed greater support among the Republicans than Huang

Hsing. The chief spokesmen of the Republican caucus were not members of the Party. And there is much evidence that many of those most active